

Department of Health between 1986 and 2007. During 22 years, there were 30867 fatal cases of submersion and suffocation in Taiwan, and involved more men (73%) than woman (23%). Children aged 1-4 years (N=2493, 8.3%), under 1 years (N=2408, 7.8%) and 15-19 years (N=2318, 7.5%) were high risk age groups. Submersion (74%) was the leading causes of these fatal cases, followed by suffocation of foreign bodies (10.6%) and food (8.9%). Showing a tendency of decrease by sex, age and types, the mortality rate of submersion and suffocation was 3.64/100,000 (males 9.3/10,000; female 3.6/100,000), and the age preference was over 85 years (3.4/100,000). The highest mortality rate was in submersion (an average of 4.95/100,000), which rate decreased largest during 22 years (from 7.9 to 2.2), the age preference were 1-4 years and over 75 years. Suffocation by foreign bodies overtook that by food and became the second leading cause of death since 1998. The aged preference was under 1 year and over 80 years. This finding suggests that government should enhance the submersion prevention programs for people who aged 1-4 years and over 75 years in the future.

FP-079

Method-Specific Suicide Rates in Kaoshiung City, 1994-2006

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Background Method-specific suicide trends varied across countries, and studies of the trends in different countries can contribute to the understanding of the epidemiology of suicide. The purpose of this study was to examine the changes in suicide trends by sex, age and method in the years 1994 to 2006 in Kaoshiung City. Methods Mortality data files of suicide and undetermined deaths for the years 1994-2006 were obtained for analyses. Age-, sex- and method-specific suicide rates were calculated by seven age groups (0-14, 15-24, 25-44, 45-64, 65-74, 75-84 and ≥ 85 years old) and five suicide methods (solids/liquids poisoning, other gases poisoning, hanging, jumping, and others). Results Both sexes experienced upward trends from 1994 to 1999, and then an upward trend since 2000. People aged 85 years and above had the highest suicide rates throughout the study periods. However, females aged 25-34 years and males aged 35-54 years experienced the steepest increasing trends. As to suicide methods, an annual increase, since 1994, of people jumping from heights to commit suicide, and a marked increase, since 1999, of people completing suicide by poisoning with other gases (mainly charcoal-burning) were observed. Conclusion Suicide by measure of charcoal-burning and jumping from heights has become a serious public health problem in Kaoshiung City. Preventive measures to curb these increasing trends are urgently needed.

FP-080

Gender Differences in Types of Injuries at Different Age Levels

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Purpose: This study is to analyze gender differences for all types of injuries in different age groups. Methods: Injury data of Neihu District of Taipei City were drawn out from injury surveillance system of Taiwanese Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Association. A total of 16013 cases registered during the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2008. Results: In general, age groups of 15-24 years and over 65 years have higher injury rate; and over all gender ratio of male to female is 1.43:1. The gender difference is affected by age levels and types of injuries. For intentional injuries, females are the main victims of domestic violence, whereas males are usually injured from homicide and infliction by other persons. As to unintentional injuries, more males than females were seen for most of types of injuries except for injuries from animals and plants and poisoning. In traffic accident, driver victims are mostly males and passenger victims are mostly females. At age 45 or above, more females suffered from falls than males. Men tend to be involved in human caused unintentional injuries more than women by 2.32 times. Conclusion: Gender difference varies according to types of injuries and age levels. We must put gender, age, and situation into consideration when planning an injury prevention program. Preventive tactic should be evaluated with more profound data analysis to show its effectiveness.

FP-081

Association between Obesity and Low Back Pain among Taiwanese Adults

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Objective: To examine the association between low back pain (LBP) and obesity. Methods: This was a retrospective cohort study. Data from two sources were used: the 2001 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) data and the 2002-2004 National Health Insurance (NHI) claim data. Our sample consisted of 12,862 adults who were aged 18 years or older in 2001 and gave consent to the linkage of their survey data with corresponding NHI claims data. We defined "obesity" according to the WHO-Asia Pacific categories of Body Mass Index (BMI in kg/m²). Cox's proportional hazards regression was used to identify factors associated with LBP.